



Homework Policy

Rationale:

Homework helps students by complementing and reinforcing classroom learning, fostering good lifelong learning and study habits and providing an opportunity for students to be responsible for their own learning.

Purposeful and appropriate homework activities, and the interest shown by parents, have the potential to improve students' learning. Homework can strengthen the link between home and school by involving parents in a meaningful way in their children's education. Parents, in partnership with the school, should encourage their children to establish good homework patterns from early primary school.

We recognize that there are many demands on family life and we believe in the importance of all students having time to enjoy personal and family activities. Therefore time spent on homework should be reasonable and flexible.

Aims:

- To reinforce and further develop students' understandings, skills and knowledge.
- To support and extend classroom learning.
- To develop habits which enable students to become active, independent and lifelong learners.
- To develop the learning partnerships between home and school.
- To value diversity, family life and active pursuits.

Types of Homework:

There are three main types of homework that may be considered:

1. Practice exercises: providing the opportunity to apply new knowledge or review, revise and reinforce newly acquired skills.
2. Preparatory homework: providing opportunities to gain background information to be better prepared for future lessons. For example background reading, researching topics, collecting items, discussions with family members etc.
3. Personal Inquiries and Goal Management: encouraging students to pursue knowledge individually and imaginatively including writing, making or designing something, investigating, researching, in alignment with their Personal Learning Goals.

Implementation Guidelines:

- Parents will be advised of homework expectations at the beginning of the school year and be provided with a copy of the school's homework policy.
- Homework is set at an appropriate level, considering the student's age and skill level and without requiring excessive assistance from parents.



- Homework should be coordinated with well communicated teacher expectations.
- To recognize individual student and family preferences, homework should be set within time frames and structured to allow for choice between completion during the week or over a weekend.
- The development of a positive attitude to and a love of reading through adult-child interaction is considered the highest priority. Therefore all students are expected to spend time reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings each evening.
- In Years 3-6 homework is recorded in the school diary and used to help organise homework tasks.
- Organisation and the time management of homework tasks in Years 5-6 is a major focus in preparing students for transition to Secondary School.

Year level requirements:

| Year Level | Suggested time | Suggested Types of Learning Tasks |
|----------------|--------------------|--|
| Prep | 10 minutes per day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings each evening (take home book) ● Practising High Frequency Words ● Occasional integrated inquiry related tasks such as interviewing, researching, writing and drawing |
| 1 and 2 | 15 minutes per day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading to, with, and by parents/caregivers or older siblings each evening ● Practising a particular English or Mathematics skill that may need refinement and extension where needed ● Occasional integrated inquiry related tasks such as interviewing, researching, writing and drawing |
| 3 and 4 | 1.5 hours per week | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily independent reading ● Formal homework may include: practice exercises, preparatory homework, personal inquiries, completion of class work |
| 5 and 6 | 2 hours per week | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily independent reading ● Homework may include: practice exercises linked to their personal learning goals, preparatory homework, personal inquiries, completion of class work |

Expectations

Parents can support their child by:

- Providing a dedicated place and time for homework.
- Encouraging them to take increasing responsibility for their learning and organisation.



- Helping them to complete homework by discussing key questions or directing them to resources, keeping in mind that it is better to encourage children to complete homework themselves.
- Helping them to balance the amount of time spent completing homework, 'screen time' and engaging in other leisure or recreational activities.
- Contacting the relevant teacher to discuss any homework difficulties, including internet access issues.
- Model a home reading climate and monitor their child's daily reading.
- Regularly sign the diary or reading log book.

Teachers can support their students by:

- Setting varied, challenging and meaningful tasks that are appropriate to the students' learning needs.
- Setting clear expectations
- Setting clear and reasonable time frames for completion taking into consideration competing home obligations, and extra-curricular activities.
- Making effective use of school diaries (Years 3-6).
- Contacting parents if homework is regularly not completed, or is unsatisfactory.
- Helping students develop the organizational and time-management skills needed for them to be responsible for their own learning.

Students can take responsibility for their own learning by:

- Accepting responsibility for the completion of homework tasks within set time frames.
- Advising parents of homework expectations.
- Acting on strategies that will help them achieve their Learning Goals.
- Seeking assistance from teachers or parents when difficulties arise.
- Ensuring that all necessary books and materials are taken home and returned to school.
- Using school diaries (Years 3-6).

Evaluation:

Homework procedures and expectations will be reviewed annually and updated when necessary.

Reference

Department of Education Victoria: [Homework Guidelines](#)